## Radio Amateurs Prepared To Maintain Contact With World

By TERRY McHALE

Because a handful of its resi- of De Pere activities. Green Bay can be sure of de- installations. pendable communications with To keep its members "on the rest of the world if normal their toes," the corps stages a contacts are cut off.

radio amateurs or "hams," are a simulated emergency test prepared to offer their services each fall. A purpose of the proand equipment should an emer- grams is to test the Green Bay gency arise. The group is banded Community Emergency Plan, to together in a unit of the Ama- provide the area with emergenteur Radio Emergency Corps, a cy communications facilities in step-child of the American Ra- the event of a disaster which dio Relay League. The corps is might damage or incapacitate now beginning its 18th year of normal communications faciliservice to the nation.

The local group is headed by The radio emergency group 12 Mobile Units

Prepared for nearly all contions system.

units that can be easily trans-dicate the coverage and intent ported to any location.

and Orin Thompson, in charge

dents have coupled an intense Earl Nelson has been of asinterest in their hobby with a sistance to the corps in providrealization of emergency needs, ing emergency power in portable

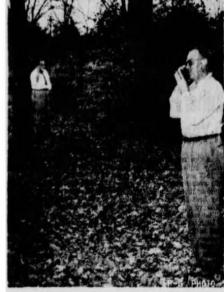
weekly drill and participates an-A group of 26 area residents, nually in a field day in June and ties. Formed in 1935

Oliver Davis, whose profession is was formed in 1935 as the also concerned with radio. In American Radio Relay League addition to membership in the Corps through an announcement national emergency organiza- in "QST," official journal of the tion, the unit is a part of the ARRL. It began as a volunteer disaster preparedness committee program, but its rapid growth of the American Red Cross and soon made necessary more forof the communications division mal arrangements. It got its first of the Brown County Civil De- big test in the floods of 1936, fense organization, under the after which the number of ama-direction of Peter Platten. teurs offering their services grew tremendously

As a result of the tingencies which may arise, the need for local leadership and Green Bay group is equipped group preparedness plans ex-with portable stations and 12 perienced in several communi-mobile units which are able to cations emergencies, the ARRL completely cover the Green Bay created the office of emergency area with a reliable communica- coordinator. In 1945, with the post-war reactivation of the During the Easter flood of a ARRL Emergency Corps, a new year ago, it was found that the section-level appointment, that unit was lacking equipment that of section emergency coordinacould be easily transported in tor, was established. This office small boats or carried on the op- is held locally by Clayton Cardy erator's back. Members of the of Sturgeon Bay. In 1950 the corps, feeling it necessary to name of the organization was meet this need, have construct- changed to Amateur Radio ed a number of hand carried Emergency Corps, to better in-

of the organization. Assisting Davis in the corps The Green Bay area organizaare Barney Engels, who has ton is now working on plans to charge of the Civil Defense activities; Robert Showers, in emergency coverage for the tercharge of the 10-meter, hand ritory. Its fall field test will be carried sets and the 10-meter conducted in the near future, network; Harrison Haskins, in when additional equipment is charge of portable equipment; made available.





Prepared To Serve-Members of the Green Bay area unit of the Amateur Radio Emergency Corps are ready to serve the community in the event that normal means of communications are disrupted by a disaster. Hand radio sets have been added to the group's equipment, enabling operators such as Bob Showers, left, and Charles Manthey, in the lower picture, to communicate with each other, mobile units, or set stations, such as is operated by Kline Wilson, upper photo, a member of the East High Megacycle club.